

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 03422 240406Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SS-15
USIE-00 /032 W
-----240413Z 016039 /13
O R 240330Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4446
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 3422

FOR ARA/AND/E

FOR DELIVERY OPENING OF BUSINESS 5/24

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, (MRS. ROSALYNN CARTER), EC

SUBJ: SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR MRS. CARTER

1. FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS ON SEVERAL SUBJECT
AREAS EMBASSY BELIEVES MRS. CARTER SHOULD RAISE OR THAT THE
GOE WILL RAISE.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS.

A. BACKGROUND. ECUADOR IS JUSTLY PROUD OF ITS RECORD
IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA. EVEN THOUGH THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN
GOVERNED BY THE MILITARY SINCE 1972, THERE IS NO HUMAN RIGHTS
PROBLEM HERE. ALTHOUGH PROCEDURAL GUARANTEES AND LEGAL
ADMINISTRATION ARE NOT UP TO US STANDARDS, THERE IS NO ARBI-
TRARY ARREST OR TORTURE AND NO ONE CURRENTLY HELD FOR POLI-
TICAL CRIMES OR ACTIVITIES. ALTHOUGH, IN THE PAST, THERE
HAVE BEEN SOME ARRESTS AND EXPULSIONS FOR POLITICAL ACTIVITY,
THIS IS NOT A CURRENT PART OF ECUADOR'S POLITICAL MILIEU
NOR DOES IT CONSTITUTE A PATTERN OF BEHAVIOR.

THE ECUADOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER HAS SAID PUBLICLY
THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY STRIKES A RESPON-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 QUITO 03422 240406Z

SIVE CHORD IN ECUADOR. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE ALSO HAS
EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE WAS COMING
TO DOMINATE US FOREIGN POLICY TO THE EXCLUSION OF OTHER
INTERESTS. ECUADOR FEELS TORN ON THIS ISSUE BETWEEN ITS
STRONG SYMPATHY FOR OUR HUMAN RIGHTS STANCE AND ITS DESIRE
NOT TO AFFRONT ITS SOUTHERN CONE NEIGHBORS TO WHOM IT LOOKS
AS A COUNTERWEIGHT TO PERU.

B. TALKING POINTS. (US INITIATIVE)

--COMPLIMENT ECUADOR ON ITS ADMIRABLE HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD. THIS IS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL REASONS WHY ECUADOR WAS INCLUDED IN THIS TRIP.

--THE ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, IN THE WORLD AS WELL AS IN THE HEMISPHERE, WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN IMPORTANT GOAL OF US FOREIGN POLICY. AS PRESIDENT CARTER SAID IN HIS SPEECH BEFORE THE OAS, THE US WILL STAND BY THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS.

--ALTHOUGH HUMAN RIGHTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE OF IMPORTANCE IN THE US'S BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS, WE INTEND TO PLACE GROWING EMPHASIS ON STRENGTHENING THE MULTILATERAL AGENCIES WHOSE FUNCTION IS THE ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

--BECAUSE OF ITS POSITION AS A CHAMPION OF PRINCIPLE IN INTERNATIONAL BEHAVIOR, WE HOPE THAT ECUADOR IN ITS ACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH ALL LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN THE JOINT EFFORT TO IMPROVE HUMAN RIGHTS. WE WERE VERY PLEASED BY THE REMARKS THAT FOREIGN MINISTER SALVADOR MADE IN CHILE ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. SECURITY ASSISTANCE (WILL BE RAISED BY GOE)

A. BACKGROUND. HAVING SUFFERED IN A WAR WITH PERU AS RECENTLY AS 1941, THE ECUADOREANS ARE VERY CONCERNED OVER MASSIVE PERUVIAN ARMS PURCHASES OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS. THEY FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT REGIONAL HOSTILITIES ARE LIKELY IN THE NEXT 3-5 YEARS AND THAT THEY WILL BECOME DIRECTLY INVOLVED. ECUADOR DOES NOT HAVE THE POPULATION OR WEALTH TO PRESENT AN OFFENSIVE THREAT TO PERU, BUT THE GOVERNMENT DOES WISH TO ACQUIRE A CREDIBLE DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY WHICH

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 QUITO 03422 240406Z

WILL DISCOURAGE ANY PERUVIAN ADVENTURES. DESPITE THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY OF CURTAILING ARMS TRANSFERS ON A GLOBAL SCALE, A REASONABLE EFFORT TO COOPERATE WITH ECUADOR IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE SEEMS WARRANTED BY THE CIRCUMSTANCES. THE REGIONAL ARMS IMBALANCE CREATED BY THE WEAPONS ACQUISITION OF PERU HAS INCREASED BOTH TENSIONS AND THE POTENTIAL FOR HOSTILITIES IN THE ANDES. IF ECUADOR POSSESSED A MINIMUM DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY AND WERE ABLE TO COMBINE IT WITH THE PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST TO SELF-CONFIDENCE THAT WOULD COME FROM SUCH ASSISTANCE FROM THE US, IT WOULD GIVE THE PERUVIANS A GREAT DEAL OF PAUSE BEFORE THEY CONSIDERED A MILITARY ADVENTURE AND THEREBY DIMINISH THE POSSIBILITIES OF A WAR WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

ECUADOR HAS DRAWN INCREASINGLY CLOSE TO THE US OVER THE PAST YEAR, PARTLY BECAUSE OF SHARED PRINCIPLES ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS, BUT LARGELY BECAUSE THEY CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT THE US CAN PROVIDE THE DEFENSIVE WEAPONS THEY FEEL THEY NEED. THUS THE GOE HAS BEEN COOPERATIVE IN AVOIDING SEIZURES OF FISHING BOATS, HAS BEEN FORTH-

COMING IN SETTLING THE GULF OIL BUY-OUT, HAS SOUGHT TO RESOLVE OUR DIFFERENCES IN THE LAW OF THE SEA NEGOTIATIONS, AND HAS INCREASINGLY SUPPORTED US IN INTERNATIONAL FORA.

B. TALKING POINTS.

--THE USG IS AWARE OF AND IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE SECURITY PROBLEMS IN THE ANDEAN REGION AND HAS BEEN TRYING TO SEEK OUT WAYS TO REDUCE TENSIONS. THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS BEGUN DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON WITH ALL OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED IN ORDER TO PROMOTE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON WAYS IN WHICH TO REDUCE THE DANGER OF WAR.

--AS YOU KNOW, THE PRESIDENT RECENTLY STATED OUR NEW POLICY ON SALE OF WEAPONS. THE INTENTION IS TO PRACTICE A POLICY OF RESTRAINT WITH REGARD TO SUCH SALES AND TO LESSEN THEIR INFLUENCE ON OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

--WE REALIZE THAT THE US IS ONLY ONE OF A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES SUPPLYING ARMS AND THAT THE ULTIMATE ANSWER TO UNIVERSAL REDUCTION ON ARMS LIES IN SUPPLIER AGREEMENTS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 QUITO 03422 240406Z

TO LIMIT SUCH TRANSFERS. HOWEVER, WE PLAN TO DO WHAT WE CAN.

--OUR NEW UNIVERSAL POLICY OF RESTRAINT, IT SHOULD BE NOTED, IS NOT NEW TO LATIN AMERICA WHERE WE HAVE BEEN PRACTICING IT FOR SEVERAL YEARS, ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS THE INTRODUCTION OF ADVANCE WEAPONS. IT WILL THEREFORE AFFECT THIS REGION MUCH LESS THAN SOME OTHERS.

--AT THE SAME TIME, WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE CLEAR THAT EVEN UNDER THIS NEW POLICY WE WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE LEGITIMATE SECURITY PROBLEMS OF OUR ALLIES AND CLOSE FRIENDS. PARTICULARLY, THE POLICY IS NOT DESIGNED TO DISADVANTAGE OUR ALLIES AND FRIENDS IF OTHER SUPPLIERS ARE ARMING THEIR ADVERSARIES. (STATE 115244, PARA 7B)

--I KNOW THAT RESPONSES FROM US ON SOME OF THE WEAPONS THAT YOU HAVE INQUIRED ABOUT HAVE BEEN DELAYED BECAUSE OF OUR NECESSITY TO DETERMINE OUR NEW POLICY OF UNIVERSAL RESTRAINT. NOW THAT THE BASIC GUIDELINES HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED, WE WILL STUDY YOUR REQUESTS CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO RESPOND TO YOU AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

--IT MAY BE THAT ON SOME OF YOUR REQUESTS WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY. BUT WE HOPE WE CAN OFFER SOME ALTERNATIVES IN SUCH CASES OR THAT OUR INABILITY TO COMPLY WITH EACH AND EVERY REQUEST WILL NOT AFFECT OUR FRIENDSHIP.

4. GSP

MRS. CARTER WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE PRESSED FOR A STATEMENT ON GSP EXCLUSION OF VENEZUELA AND ECUADOR. IF SHE CANNOT BE AS FORTHCOMING ABOUT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH SEEKING ITS REMOVAL AS THE PAST ADMINISTRATION WAS, IT WILL HAVE A HIGHLY NEGATIVE EFFECT HERE. IF SHE CAN, ECUADOR WILL BE SOMEWHAT REASSURED.

BLOOMFIELD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977QUITO03422
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770184-0460
Format: TEL
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770523/aaaaauar.tel
Line Count: 170
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5556d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2390427
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR MRS. CARTER
TAGS: OVIP, EC, (MRS ROSALYNN CARTER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5556d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009